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Note by the Secretary-General

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1. Action Internationale pour la Paix et le Développement dans la région des Grands Lacs (AIPD-GL)

(Special, 2005)

I. Introduction

AIPD-GL is a member of the platform of Swiss non-governmental organizations (NGOs) operating in the Great Lakes region with the Development and Cooperation Directorate, the Coordination of African Human Rights NGOs (CONGAF), and Diaspora africaine pour la société de l'information (DAPSI). AIPD-GL is also a partner of a Netherlands foundation, the World Initiative for Orphans (WIO). AIPD-GL's mission is to identify ways and means of reconciling the requirements of peace and development in order to improve living conditions for the people of the Great Lakes region.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations and its subsidiary bodies

(a) World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), Tunis, Tunisia, November 2005. AIPD-GL attended WSIS, organizing a workshop on information and communication technologies as a factor for peace and the integration of child soldiers in Africa. (b) Participated in the fiftieth and fifty-second sessions of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, New York, 27 February-10 March 2006 and 25 February-7 March 2008, and organized two workshops relating to the Millennium Development Goals. (c) Participated in a thematic dialogue organized by the Danish Institute for Human Rights on the occasion of a session of the Human Rights Council on 21 March 2007. Themes: "The role of national human rights institutions in the prevention of torture: challenges and opportunities" and "The human rights situation in Africa: successes, tragedies and lessons learned." AIPD-GL joined forces with Mr Pacéré, the Human Rights Council's independent expert, to organize a workshop on armed conflicts and human rights violations in Africa. (d) Delegation sent to Tunis to initiate a partnership with Tunisian civil society on reducing the digital divide. (e) On 10 October 2008, AIPD-GL was invited to participate in a workshop organized by the Norwegian Council for Refugees on the theme of the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region, which came into force in June 2008. (f) Statement by AIPD-GL at the eighth special session of the Human Rights Council, held on 28 November 2008 in Geneva, for the application of international humanitarian law with a view to protecting civilians from armed groups in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

Socio-economic activities for development: Project featuring the establishment of a pilot centre in the DRC for the effective reintegration of child soldiers and street children into a socio-educational and socio-economic environment through skills training and the use of information and communication technologies, in cooperation

with the International Telecommunications Union in Geneva and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger. (a) AIPD-GL approached the Economic and Social Council and participated in the Info-poverty World Conference, presenting proposals for combating poverty and hunger. (b) International conference of international development agencies held in Geneva in May, 2006, on the theme, "How to overcome obstacles to attainment of the goals of the Millennium Declaration?" (c) AIPD-GL became a signatory to a project with Swiss Great Lakes NGOs, in partnership with the Development and Cooperation Directorate of the federal Department of Foreign Affairs, on 9 April 2008.

Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education. AIPD-GL is working with its partners to eradicate functional illiteracy by 2015. (a) On 25 August 2006, the Rotary Club of Brie-Pontault in France ("Les Portes de la Brie") sent us a tonne of cartons containing books and school supplies for the primary and secondary schools in Dimbelenge in the DRC's Western Kasai Province, as a means of combating functional illiteracy. (b) In partnership with the International Telecommunications Union, AIPD-GL is implementing a pilot project in Kinshasa, DRC, aimed at the reintegration of child soldiers.

Activities in support of global principles

AIPD-GL participated in the African Union Conference with African NGOs (Paris, 11-12 September 2007) for development in Africa.

Publication in 2005 of a White Paper entitled "Combating violence against women and children in the Democratic Republic of the Congo."

2. Comité National d'Action pour les Droits de l'Enfant et de la Femme

(Special, 1998)

I. Introduction

Le Comité national d'action pour les droits de l'enfant et de la femme is a Cameroonian non-governmental organization that was established on 13 January 1992 and is officially recognized by the Ministry of Youth and Sports. Its objective is to cooperate with the United Nations to uphold the rights of all children to life, well-being, information and education, and to promote the full and complete integration of women into the development process through action to increase their productivity and income, improve their health, and protect their rights to information and continuing education. The organization's mission is to undertake initiatives contributing to the implementation and monitoring of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. In pursuit of these objectives, the Comité national publicizes these two Conventions and subsequent documents throughout the country and at local, national, subregional, regional and international meetings

in which it participates, and it also tracks all areas of discrimination against women and children, conducting an in-depth investigation into the origins and socio-economic and cultural implications of that phenomenon. It contributes to conflict resolution.

2006: In March, the President and founder of the Comité national made a statement at the fiftieth session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, asking the Group of Seven, the Group of Eight and the friends of Africa and Cameroon to cancel unconditionally the debts of the poor countries, Africa, and Cameroon.

Following the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, the Comité national was invited to participate in the subregional workshop on the role of civil society in the implementation of the Durban Programme of Action.

29-30 June: The Comité national was invited to attend the Civil Society Forum on Employment and Decent Work, held in Geneva. The Comité national was also invited to participate in the Economic and Social Council's High Level Segment held on that occasion.

2007: (a) 28 March: the Comité national mobilized, trained and encouraged women to stand as candidates at municipal and legislative elections; (b) 9 September: the Comité national participated in a regional workshop on HIV/AIDS and nutrition, organized by the Cameroon office of the World Food Programme.

2008: (a) 17-18 September: the Comité national was invited to the Africa Regional Preparatory Workshop for the 48th session of the International Conference on Education; (b) 8 December: the Comité national prepared to mark the 61st anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (10 December).

3. Mouvement pour l'Abolition de la Prostitution et de la Pornographie et de toutes formes de violences sexuelles et discriminations sexistes (MAPP)

(Special, 2001)

I. Introduction

The organization's purpose is to work against any tendency for the objectization of women, men and children, sexual and sexist violence, and the marketing of the human body to be regarded as unremarkable phenomena, and to oppose all gender-related discrimination and all forms of sexual and/or sexist violence against all persons based on their gender. All its actions are aimed at heightening awareness in public opinion, changing habits of thought through the use of all available contemporary media, conducting and publishing research on these issues, and raising them at national and international meetings.

Significant changes in the organization: The 2008 general meeting decided that the organization's headquarters should be moved to Norway. It was felt that Norwegian policies and the team's location in Norway would provide a more

suitable base for action on behalf of equality between women and men, action against sexist and sexual violence, trafficking, prostitution and pornography, and mobilization for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000). Moreover, MAPP has developed contacts in the Middle East, mainly in Jordan, where it has representatives who facilitate activities with Jordanian, Iraqi, Lebanese and Palestinian women. The document collection and partnerships entered into in France or from our former headquarters in France have been taken over by an association known as Femmes solidaires.

II. Contribution to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies

2005: MAPP participated in the forty-ninth session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in March, joined forces with the Coalition Against Trafficking in women to organize round table discussions, and made statements in European Women's Lobby workshops, and its President was designated by French NGOs to join the official French delegation. MAPP also participated in the work of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva and was received by Ms. Sigma Huda, the Special Rapporteur on the fundamental rights of victims of human trafficking, especially women and children, the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, and the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights.

2006: MAPP participated in the opening of the new Human Rights Council, a meeting of the Security Council on resolution 1325 (2000), the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, and the fiftieth session of the session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. It made a statement at the second session of the Human Rights Council in September on the report of the Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, and met with her on that occasion.

2007: MAPP participated in the fifty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Human Rights Council, and the initial meetings of the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference, joined with the Ligue internationale contre le racisme et l'antisémitisme in making an oral statement in September 2007, and participated in the Commemorative High-Level Plenary Meeting on "A World Fit for Children + 5", which was organized on the occasion of the General Assembly in December 2007.

2008: MAPP continued to track the work of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Human Rights Council. It brought representatives of Norway, France, Iraq and Jordan to the eighth session of the Human Rights Council. It contributed particularly actively to the work of the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference.

Cooperation with specialized agencies

As long ago as 1999, MAPP had been following the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in connection with the drafting of the Palermo

Convention and its protocol on trafficking in persons. Accordingly, it participated in the Forum of the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking, held in Vienna in February 2008, which was attended by women representatives from Norway, France and Jordan.

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals: MAPP participated in meetings of the Millennium NGO Forum in New York in 2000. However, it has been unable to develop specific activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals, apart from a visit to Madagascar in September 2008 to make contact with teachers who were working to promote children's rights and education. The issues with which MAPP is concerned, namely trafficking in persons, prostitution and gender equality are directly or indirectly related to the problems of poverty and develoment.

Other activities

2005: MAPP continued its study on sexism in publications for children. The project director participated at various conferences in France and elsewhere in Europe, in most cases in partnership with the University of Lille, and has launched another project of the same kind on sexism in school textbooks. MAPP has stepped up the activities it conducts in partnership with networks of women journalists in the Balkans and elsewhere in Europe (especially the Network of Women Journalists in Albania and the Comición para la investigación de malos tratos a mujeres in Spain); members went to Tirana, Albania in May 2005 to organize a prevention operation, and attended a number of conferences in Spain under the auspices of the Office of the Mayor of Madrid. MAPP has begun to work with organizations in the Baltic countries in an effort to prevent trafficking in women, including in particular the ENUT organization in Estonia, the Women's Issues Information Centre in Lithuania, and the Marta Resource Centre for Women in Latvia. A MAPP representative visited all three of those countries in September 2005 to lay the groundwork for the project. A MAPP representative also went to Georgia in that month, and there was introduced to local associations dedicated to the protection of women; she was also able to meet Georgian journalists and parliamentarians. In addition, MAPP was invited to represent Europe at a conference on prostitution and trafficking in women held in Seoul, South Korea, again in September 2005; the conference was organized by the Association of Korean Women. In October, MAPP was invited to Norway by the Centre for Gender Equality to present its study on the links among pornography, trafficking, prostitution and sexism.

MAPP also participated regularly in an expert capacity in meetings of the European Women's Lobby in Brussels. Similarly, it continued to work in partnership with the Association des femmes de l'Europe méridionale and various organizations in France, including in particular la Fondation Scelles, the Mouvement du Nid, Coordination française pour le lobby européen des femmes, Collectif National pour les droits des femmes, and the Centre National des droits des femmes et des familles. MAPP supplied input during the drafting of the Council of Europe Convention on action against trafficking in human beings, commonly known as the Warsaw Convention.

2006: MAPP continued to work uninterruptedly with its European partners in Albania, Spain, the Baltic countries and Georgia, and also French European and international associations, as described above for the year 2005. It also continued its research on publications for children. In addition, it co-organized a conference

in partnership with the Office of the Mayor of Paris in September. MAPP sent another delegation to Albania in that month, where the members met with various parliamentary representatives and ministers, and in October a delegation went to Spain to attend a conference organized by the Office of the Mayor of Madrid on trafficking in women.

MAPP reinforced its links with the Iroko Association in Italy, and for the first time sent representatives to the Republic of Moldova to establish relations with an organization that works on behalf of women in contemporary society, which has repatriated more than 80 women victims of trafficking. In June, MAPP sent a delegation to Bulgaria with the Coalition Against Trafficking in Women.

MAPP provided coordination in France and throughout Europe for the "Buying sex is not a sport" campaign organized by the Coalition Against Trafficking in Women on the occasion of the World Cup soccer championship in Germany. It took advantage of the opportunity to establish relations with other organizations, including in particular Femmes solidaires and the World March of Women, with which MAPP organized a number of demonstrations. The President was interviewed by numerous French and European press, television and radio journalists on that occasion. MAPP also forged links with the European Feminist Initiative for Another Europe, and participated in conferences and meetings organized under the auspices of the Île-de-France Regional Council and the Seine-Saint-Denis Observatory on Violence against Women. Lastly, MAPP worked in partnership with the Jean Jaurès Foundation, la Coordination française pour le lobby européen des femmes, and an association known as Regards de femmes.

2007: MAPP pursued and augmented its actions in France, throughout Europe and internationally with its various partners. It completed its study on children's publications. In March 2007, MAPP, in its capacity as an expert on trafficking, made a statement at the Rennes international film festival, and advocated action against violence at the Centre national d'information sur les droits des femmes et des familles in Rouen and elsewhere in the Normandy region. MAPP continued to carry on its work with new Middle Eastern representatives, including in particular some from Jordan and Iraq. In June, a delegation went to Romania to meet with Caritas. In July, MAPP organized an international seminar on trafficking, held in Peipin, in the Department of Alpes-de-Haute-Provence in France, which was attended by representatives from Albania, France, Italy, Norway, the Philippines, Spain and the United States.

2008: As in previous years, MAPP pursued its international networking activities, but did little travelling, apart from trips organized by the United Nations; the move to Norway was very costly in terms of the organization's human and financial resources.

4. Organisation Tunisienne pour l'Education et la Famille (OTEF)

(Special, 1997)

I. Introduction

Objectives and aims of the organization and scope of its activities: The Organisation Tunisienne pour l'Education et la Famille (OTEF) is a national not-for-profit organization that works for adequate education and family solidarity in step with changing times and changing patterns of behaviour. It implements its programmes both in the framework of national social policies and having regard to the Millennium Development Goals, including Goal 2 (Achieve universal primary education) and, secondarily, Goal 3 (Promote gender equality and empower women). Its action is guided by the United Nations watchword, "Think globally, act locally" and that of UNESCO, "Education for all". Its range of activities extends from social mediation to social assistance, action to promote awareness of children's rights, and support for preschool- and school-aged children from disadvantaged families.

II. OTEF's contribution to the work of the United Nations

In this context, OTEF has actively participated in various national and regional conferences on education and the knowledge society, new information and communication technologies, and the enhancement of families' capacities. It has organized dozens of local and national training workshops, conferences and seminars dealing with various aspects of education and family problems throughout the country.

In addition, OTEF participated in a regional conference on the Arab family and globalization which was held in Sharja, in the United Arab Emirates, in 2008.

Furthermore, OTEF is continuing to diversify its services on behalf of families by establishing units dealing with family mediation, preparation for conjugal life, parent education, and family cultural and recreational activities.

In the exceptional context of recent years, OTEF has mobilized in support of national health campaigns directed at avian influenza and influenza A(H1N1), and also the national anti-smoking campaign, as part of its ongoing effort to contribute to the protection of families and young persons.

OTEF has continued to publish and distribute its bimonthly magazine, *Echos de la Famille*, and has taken part in dozens of radio and television discussions on the family and education. It has also consolidated its network of university residences and provided financial support for school-aged children with disabilities. In addition, the organization has continued to support the national adult education programme, which is designed to combat illiteracy, by holding classes, organizing socio-cultural acitvities and working to motivate learners.

OTEF has thus spared no effort in contributing to the development work done by the United Nations, disseminating education for all through its 50 basic and secondary educational institutions throughout the country. Over 7,000

disadvantaged pupils have been helped, yet again, through the organization's services.

OTEF has continued to run its seven integrated educational complexes, from kindergarten to secondary school, and its 20 university residences, seven family residences and 30 kindergartens.

In addition to its own activities, OTEF works in partnership with the public education system in an effort to improve educational quality, address all forms of learning difficulties, and ensure equal opportunity for all, in line with the goals of the Dakar World Education Forum.

During the period under review, OTEF was again unable to participate in United Nations conferences or the work of the Economic and Social Council for want of financial resources. However, it unflaggingly pursued its activities and its communication and education campaigns on behalf of United Nations values and conferences, just as it did during the previous four-year reporting period.

5. WebForce International - WFI

(Special, 2001

I. Introduction

Aims and purposes of organization. WebForce International is a Swiss NGO that is very active in the field of communications and telecommunications.

Any change that may have had a significant impact on the organization's vision, orientation and/or the scope of its work: WebForce International has reoriented its activities since 2004, for the simple reason that reconditioning scrapped computers can no longer be considered an acceptable practice from either a humanitarian or an environmental standpoint, for recycling them is much more costly than installing a light client or netbook network. We have worked extensively with the International Telecommunications Union, of which we became a member (in the development sector) in May 2007. This activity also extends to Internet governance as a member of ICANN, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (the Non-commercial Users Constituency (NCUC) home for civil society in ICANN).

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings

WebForce International devoted so much time to the World Summit on the Information Society that unfortunately it did not have the financial resources to attend other meetings. The establishment of our cooperation network for NGO teleworking has offset our problems to some extent.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

International Telecommunications Union, 2007: (a) "World Information Society Day", Geneva, 15-17 May; (b) Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the ITU on "ICTs for disaster management: saving lives", Geneva, 10 December 2007 (http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/emergencytelecoms/events/global_forum/partnershipstyle2.html)

2008: (a) Meeting of the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) in Geneva, in February; (b) Cluster of WSIS in Geneva, in May. For further information about these activities, see the following web pages: http://www.itu.int/wsis/c2/docs/2008-May-19/mdocs/WebForce_WSIS_2008_Cluster_EN.pdf and http://www.itu.int/wsis/c2/docs/2008-May-19/mdocs/ALC2C4C6-3-11-Note-Facilitation-Process.pdf

Activities undertaken by the organization that support the Millennium Development Goals

WebForce International submitted its projects relating to universal access to the ITU, the Global Alliance for ICT and Development (GAID) and the Internet Governance Forum (IGF).

For further information about our projects, see the following web pages: http://www.itu.int/wsis/stocktaking/plugin/documents.asp?project=1211039129&lang=en,

http://www.itu.int/wsis/stocktaking/plugin/documents.asp?project=1211040092&lang=en

and

http://www.itu.int/wsis/stocktaking/plugin/documents.asp?project=1211041487&lang=en.

Our CODETIC project (Consortium for equitable development of information and communication technologies) is aimed at establishing an open, world-wide consortium that is oriented toward quantifiable results to promote real sustainable development as defined in the Millennium Declaration and the WSIS recommendations. For further information about this project, see the web page http://www.itu.int/wsis/stocktaking/scripts/documents.asp?project=1194356151&lang=en.

Cooperation with the Governments of various countries

People's Republic of China: WebForce International met with representatives of the Government and the private Teda-Landun Group, with the collaboration of the ITU, in Geneva. The meeting was also attended by H.E. Li Baodong, the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations in Geneva, H.E. Michel Peissik, a former Ambassador of France, now an advisor to WebForce, and Dr. Houlin Zao, the ITU Deputy Secretary-General.

Republic of Cuba: In 2008, following the last hurricane, which had damaged Cuba's communication system, WFI and some private-sector partners approached the Government with a proposal for a project consisting of the construction of a

hurricane-resistant, low-cost microwave network. The proposal was submitted to Mr. Jorge A. Ferrer Rodriguez, Minister-Counsellor with the Permanent Mission to the United Nations Office in Geneva.

Republic of the Congo: Proposal for a microwave network, currently under negotiation.

Tunisia: Various cultural projects and technical proposals, during and after WSIS. Presentation of a new generation e-book for schools and universities, including open-source software, a VoIP platform and virtualization software. All the above are part of a WebForce project entitled "Synapse learning and virtualization. ICTs serving education, education serving people", which was developed between 2006 and 2009 with input from a number of universities and the private sector. Concurrently, installation of local and remote servers. The project is being considered by Mr. Hatem Ben Salem, the Tunisian Minister of Education. A number of ministers from other countries are also considering the project.

Comoros: Same project as the above; it is under consideration by Dr. Abdourahim Said Bakar, Minister of Posts and Telecommunications.

Other comments: 2006 was a difficult year: our organization was unable to attend many United Nations meetings, as all our representatives are volunteers. The full impact of the massive financial effort we had undertaken during the period 2000-2005 in order to take part in the WSIS conference was felt in 2006. Accordingly, WebForce reinforced its network by working via the Internet, and in that way was able to consolidate its activities by offering telework, teleconferencing, teleinterpreting and telehealth projects, and also preparing our 2010 membership campaign.